ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಷತ್ತು

1. ಚುಕ್ಕೆ ಗುರುತಿಲ್ಲದ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 1182
2. ವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಷತ್ತು ಸದಸ್ಯರ ಹೆಸರು : ಶ್ರೀ ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್ ಭಂಡಾರಿ (ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ)
3. ಉತ್ತರಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 07.03.2022
4. ಉತ್ತರಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಸಚಿವರು : ಮಾನ್ಯ ಪ್ರವಾಸೋದ್ಯಮ ಹಾಗೂ ಜೀವಿಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸರ ಸಚಿವರು

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ	ಉತ್ತರ
ಅ)	ಕಸ್ತೂರಿರಂಗನ್ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಯಾವಾಗ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ; ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಯಾವ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ತಯಾರಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ; ವರದಿಯ ಸಾರಾಂಶ ಯಾವುದು; (ವರದಿಯ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವುದು)	ಡಾ|| ಕಸ್ತೂರಿ ರಂಗನ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಚಿಸಲಾದ ಉನ್ನತ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕಾರಿ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ತನ್ನ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪರಿಸರ, ಅರಣ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಹವಾಗುಣ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಂತ್ರಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.03.2013 ರಂದು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪರಿಸರ, ಅರಣ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಹವಾಗುಣ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಂತ್ರಾಲಯವು ಡಾ|| ಕಸ್ತೂರಿ ರಂಗನ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉನ್ನತ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕಾರಿ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಅಂಶಗಳು (Terms & Reference) ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ. a. ಗಾಡ್ಗಿಲ್ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಸಮಗ್ರವಾಗಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವಿಧ ವಿಷಯಗಳ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವುದು. b. ನ್ಯಾಯಸಮ್ಮತವಾದ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಯ ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯತೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ಅವನತಿಯ ತಡೆಯುವಿಕೆ, ವಿಶೇಷವಾಗಿ ಸಸ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಾಣಿಗಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣೆ. c. ಈ ಗುರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಧಿಸಲು ಮುಂದಿನ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಮಾರ್ಗಗಳ ಸಲಹೆ.

ಉನ್ನತ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕಾರಿ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಶಿಫಾರಸ್ಸಿನ ಪ್ರಮುಖವಾದ ಅಂಶಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

A. ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಿತ ಅಂಶಗಳು :

a. ಐದು ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳನ್ನೊಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ 'ಪರಿಸರ ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮ ಪ್ರದೇಶ'ವನ್ನು ಘೋಷಿಸುವುದು. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಪರಿಸರ ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯು 20,688 ಚ.ಕಿ.ಮೀ 1576 ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

b. ವಿವಿಧ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಾದ ಗಣಿಗಾರಿಕೆ, ಕ್ವಾರಿ, ಮರಳು ಗಣಿಗಾರಿಕೆ, ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಉತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಘಟಕಗಳ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ, ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ವಿಸ್ತರಣ (ನಿಗದಿತ ಮಿತಿ ಮೀರಿ), ಕೆಂಪು ವರ್ಗ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳು ಮುಂತಾದವುಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ.

B. ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಅಂಶಗಳು.

a. ಪರಿಸರತ್ಮಾಕವಾದ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ.

b. ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವಿತ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಧನ ಸಹಾಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕೃತಿ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಜೋಡಿಸುವುದು.

c. ಪರಿಸರಾತ್ಮಕ ಹಸಿರು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಹಾಯದ ಜೋಡಣೆ.

d. ಅರಣ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸರ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಆಯೋಗದ ಅನುದಾನದ ಜೋಡಣೆ.

e. ಪರಿಸರ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ಮೌಲ್ಯೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಉಪಯೋಗಿ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಿಂದ ಹಣಪಾವತಿ.

f. ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ಸಮನ್ವಯ ಪಟ್ಟಿ (Concurrent List) ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 20 ಕ್ಕೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ತರುವಾಗ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಸರಾತ್ಮಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಜೀವಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸುವುದು.

6

		g. ಹಸಿರು ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗಾಗಿ, ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಘಟ್ಟಗಳ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಧಿಯನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು. h. ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಪರಿಸರ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಷಮತೆಯ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಅನುದಾನವನ್ನು ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಂಚುವುದು. i. ರೂ. 1000.00 ಕೋಟಿ ಅನುದಾನದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಘಟ್ಟಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಮುಂದುವರೆಸುವುದು. j. ವಿಶೇಷ ವರ್ಗ ದರ್ಜೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳ ವೆಚ್ಚದ ಪಾಲನ್ನು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ಶೇ. 90:10 ರ ಅನುಪಾತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದುವರೆಸುವುದು. ವರದಿಯ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು <u>ಸಿ.ಡಿ.ಯಲ್ಲಿ (ಅನುಬಂಧ-1)</u> ಒದಗಿಸಿದೆ.
ಆ)	ಉಡುಪಿ ಮತ್ತು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಯಾವ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳು ಕಸ್ತೂರಿ ರಂಗನ್ ವರದಿಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಒಳಗಡೆ ಬರುತ್ತದೆ; ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಶಃ ಮತ್ತು ಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಒಳಗಡೆ ಬರುವ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳು ಯಾವುವು; (ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮವಾರು ವಿವರ ನೀಡುವುದು) ಈ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆಯೇ; ಆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಗ್ರಾಮಸ್ಥರಿಂದ ವಿರೋಧ ಮತ್ತು ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾಗಿರುವುದು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆಯೇ; ಹಾಗಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ನೀಡುವುದು; ಈ ಕುರಿತು ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಕೈಗೊಂಡ ಕ್ರಮಗಳು ಯಾವುವು; (ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವುದು)	ಡಾ॥ ಕಸ್ತೂರಿ ರಂಗನ್ ವರದಿಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ಉಡುಪಿ ಮತ್ತು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು <u>ಅನುಬಂಧ-2</u> ರಲ್ಲಿ ಒದಗಿಸಿದೆ. ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಭಾರತ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೌದು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಗ್ರಾಮಸ್ಥರಿಂದ ವಿರೋಧ ಮತ್ತು ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ಬಂದಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಸ್ವೀಕೃತವಾಗಿರುವ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯು ಪರ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿರೋಧವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28.12.2020 ರಂದು ನಡೆದ ಸಚಿವ ಸಂಪುಟದ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾದ ತೀರ್ಮಾನದಂತೆ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಯವರು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಪರಿಸರ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಹವಾಮಾನ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ, ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಸಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಬೃಹತ್ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಉದ್ದಿಮೆಗಳ ಖಾತೆ ಸಚಿವರಿಗೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.12.2020 ರಂದು ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಬರೆದು, "ಸಚಿವ ಸಂಪುಟ ಉಪ

		ಸಮಿತಿಯು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28.12.2020 ರಂದು ನಡೆದ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿದಂತೆ, ಡಾ. ಕೆ. ಕಸ್ತೂರಿ ರಂಗನ್ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಹೊರಡಿಸಿರುವ ಕರಡು ಪರಿಸರ ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಈಗಿರುವಂತೆಯೇ ಒಪ್ಪಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಗತಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಕರಡು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯು ಒದಗಿಸಬಹುದಾದ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶವನ್ನು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಬಹುತೇಕ ಸಾಧಿಸಿರುವುದರಿಂದ, ಸದರಿ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯ ಅನ್ವಯಿಕತೆಯನ್ನು ಮರುಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಮಾಡಲು" ಒತ್ತಾಯಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.12.2021 ರಂದು ನಡೆದ ಸಚಿವ ಸಂಪುಟದ ತೀರ್ಮಾನದಂತೆ ಡಾ॥ ಕಸ್ತೂರಿ ರಂಗನ್ ನೇತೃತ್ವದ ಉನ್ನತ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರತ ತಂಡ ನೀಡಿರುವ ವರದಿಯ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03.10.2018 ರಂದು ಹೊರಡಿಸಿರುವ ಕರಡನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಿ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಜಾರಿಗೊಳಿಸಬಾರದೆಂದು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.12.2021 ರಂದು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಪರಿಸರ, ಅರಣ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಹವಾಮಾನ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಂತ್ರಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಪತ್ರ ಬರೆಯಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಪತ್ರದ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು **ಅನುಬಂಧ-3** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಒದಗಿಸಿದೆ.
ಇ)	ಕಸ್ತೂರಿ ರಂಗನ್ ವರದಿಯನ್ವಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಮೋದಿತ ಮತ್ತು ನಿಷೇದಿತ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು ಯಾವುವು? (ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವುದು)	ಕಸ್ತೂರಿ ರಂಗನ್ ವರದಿಯನ್ವಯ ಅನುಮೋದಿತ ಮತ್ತು ನಿಷೇದಿತ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳ ವಿವರವನ್ನು **ಅನುಬಂಧ-4** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಒದಗಿಸಿದೆ.

ಕಡತ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಅಪಜೀ 52 ಇಎನ್‌ವಿ 2022

(ಆನಂದ್ ಸಿಂಗ್)
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಪ್ರವಾಸೋದ್ಯಮ ಹಾಗೂ ಜೀವಿಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ
ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸರ ಸಚಿವರು

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 3rd October, 2018

S.O. 5135(E).—The following draft of the notification, which the Central Government proposes to issue in exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) is hereby published, in supersession of the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-Section (ii) vide notification number S.O. 667(E), dated the 27th February, 2017, as except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, as required by sub-rule (3) of rule 5 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, for the information of the public likely to be affected thereby; and notice is hereby given that the said draft notification shall be taken into consideration on or after the expiry of a period of sixty days from the date on which copies of the Gazette of India containing this notification are made available to the Public;

Any person interested in making any objections or suggestions on the proposals contained in the draft notification may forward the same in writing, for consideration of the Central Government within the period so specified to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor bagh Road, Ali Ganj, New Delhi-110003, or at e-mail address: esz-mef@nic.in.

Draft notification

WHEREAS, Western Ghats is an important geological landform on the fringe of the west coast of India and it is the origin of Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery and a number of other rivers and extends over a distance of approximately 1500 kilometre from Tapti river in the north to Kanyakumari in the south with an average elevation of more than 600 metre and traverses through six States namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu;

AND WHEREAS, Western Ghats is a global biodiversity hotspot and a treasure trove of biological diversity and it harbours many endemic species of flowering plants, endemic fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals and invertebrates and is also an important center of evolution of economically important domesticated plant species such as pepper, cardamom, cinnamom, mango and jackfruit;

AND WHEREAS, Western Ghats has many unique habitats which are home to a variety of endemic species of flora and fauna such as Myristica swamps, the flat-topped lateritic plateaus, the Sholas and wetland and riverine Eco-systems;

AND WHEREAS, UNESCO has included certain identified parts of Western Ghats in the UNESCO World Natural Heritage List because Western Ghats is a Centre of origin of many species as also home for rich endemic biodiversity and hence a cradle for biological evolution;

AND WHEREAS, the Western Ghats not only harbour rich biodiversity, but also support a population of approximately fifty million people and include areas of high human population density and therefore, there is a need to conserve and protect the unique biodiversity of Western Ghats while allowing for sustainable and inclusive development of the region;

AND WHEREAS, the Ministry constituted a High Level Working Group to study the ecology, environmental integrity and holistic development of the Western Ghats in view of their rich and unique biodiversity and it was also tasked with the mandate to take a holistic view of the issue and to bring synergy between protection of environment and biodiversity and needs and aspirations of the local and indigenous people, sustainable development and environmental integrity of the region and to suggest steps and way forward to prevent further degradation of the fragile ecology of the Western Ghats;

AND WHEREAS, the High Level Working Group had since submitted its report to the Ministry on the 15th April, 2013 which was kept in the public domain seeking comments/views of concerned stakeholders and was also sent to the concerned six State Governments of the Western Ghats region namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu for their considered comments/views on the report;

AND WHEREAS, the High Level Working Group has identified approximately thirty-seven percent the Western Ghats as ecologically sensitive which covers an area of 59,940 square kilometre. of natural

landscape of Western Ghats and represents a continuous band of natural vegetation extending over a horizontal distance of 1,500 kilometre and is spread across six states of Western Ghats region namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu and includes Protected Areas and World Heritage Sites of Western Ghats and the High Level Working Group has recommended prohibition or regulation of identified projects and activities in the Ecologically Sensitive Area which have maximum interventionist and destructive impacts on Eco-systems;

AND WHEREAS, the Ministry vide OM No. 1-4/2012 – RE (Pt.), dated the 20th December 2013, had *inter alia* sought suggestions from the State Governments on modifications in the boundary of the Ecologically Sensitive Area as identified by the High Level Working Group on the basis of physical verification;

AND WHEREAS, the State Government of Kerala had earlier accordingly undertaken the exercise of demarcating Ecologically Sensitive Area in the State by physical verification the Ecologically Sensitive Area recommended by the Kerala State Government is spread over of an area of 9993.7 square kilometre, which includes 9107 square kilometre of forest area and 886.7 square kilometre of non-forest area and Ecologically Sensitive Area in that State works out to 9,993.7 square kilometre as compared to 13,108 square kilometre recommended by High Level Working Group;

AND WHEREAS, earlier the Ministry issued a draft notification vide S. O. No. 733 (E), dated the 10th March 2014, declaring Ecologically Sensitive Area in the Western Ghats taking into account the Ecologically Sensitive Area demarcated by Kerala Government for the State of Kerala instead of Ecologically Sensitive Area recommended by High Level Working Group for the State, while for other States of Western Ghats region the Ecologically sensitive Area recommended by the High Level Working Group was considered;

AND WHEREAS, while responding to the said draft notification number S.O. 733 (E), dated the 10th March, 2014 some of the States of Western Ghats region had sought an opportunity to undertake demarcation of Ecologically Sensitive Area by physical verification and the same was accorded by the Central Government vide letter dated the 9th June, 2014 except for the State of Kerala;

AND WHEREAS, the Central Government had convened meetings of the State Environment and Forest Ministers of the Western Ghat region on the 7th July, 2015 and Members of Parliament of Western Ghats region on the 3rd August, 2015 to review the progress of demarcation of Ecologically Sensitive Area by physical verification and also to address the apprehensions /concerns expressed by the State Governments and the various stakeholders of Western Ghats from time to time;

AND WHEREAS, the representatives of the State Governments of Western Ghats region had informed during the meeting held on the 7th July, 2015 that demarcation of Ecologically Sensitive Area by physical verification is in advanced stages of completeness;

AND WHEREAS, it was resolved in both the meetings to clarify that there will be no displacement or dislocation of the local people living in habitations within the Ecologically Sensitive Areas demarcated in the Western Ghats and practicing of agriculture and plantation activity shall also not be affected due to the provisions contained in the draft notification;

And Whereas, the Central Government convened a meeting with the Members of Parliament of the Western Ghats region on 11th August, 2016 and decided that the Draft Notification dated 4th September, 2015 would be the basis for further discussion to finalize it.

And Whereas, further, the Central Government convened a meeting with concerned State Govt. representatives in the Ministry on 11th April, 2018 and decided that the Draft Notification dated 27th February, 2017 would be the basis for further discussion to finalize it.

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) and sub-rule (3) of rule 5 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, the Central Government hereby notifies the identified area of 56,825 square kilometre which is spread across six States, namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, as the Western Ghats Ecologically Sensitive Area.

2. Boundary and Description of Western Ghats Eco-sensitive Area.- (1) The boundary and description of Eco-sensitive Area as recommended by High Level Working Group excluding the State of Kerala is as under:-

(a) the extent of Eco-sensitive area falling in each state is as per Annexure A;

(b) the State-wise map of the portion of the Eco-sensitive area in each State is as per Annexure – B1 to B5;

(c) the State-wise list of villages falling within the Eco-sensitive Area along with respective Districts and Talukas is as per Annexure-C.

(2) The Eco-sensitive Area in the State of Kerala is spread over of an area of 9993.7 square kilometre which includes 9107 square kilometre of forest area and 886.7 square kilometre of non-forest area and the boundary and description of Eco-sensitive Area and the village-wise details of Eco-sensitive area proposed by the State Government are available on the website of the Kerala State Biodiversity Board.

3. Projects and activities to be prohibited or regulated in the Eco-sensitive area.- (1) The following categories of projects and activities shall be prohibited in Eco-sensitive Area except those proposals which have been received by Expert Appraisal Committees or the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change or State Level Expert Appraisal Committees or the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities before the 17th April, 2013, the date on which the High Level Working Group report was uploaded on the website of the Ministry and are pending consideration and such proposals shall be dealt in accordance with the guidelines and rules in existence at that time.

(a) Mining.- There shall be a complete ban on mining, quarrying and sand mining in Ecologically Sensitive Area and all existing mines shall be phased out within five years from the date of issue of the final notification or on the expiry of the existing mining lease, whichever is earlier.

(b) Thermal power plants.- No new thermal power projects and expansion of existing plants shall be allowed in the Ecologically Sensitive Area.

(c) Industry.- All new 'Red' category of industries as specified by the Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Board and the expansion of such existing industries shall be banned and the list of 'Red' category of industries shall be as specified by the Central Pollution Control Board:

provided that all existing 'Red' category of industries including health care establishments shall continue in Eco-sensitive Area under the applicable rules and regulations.

(d) Building, construction, township and area development projects.- All new and expansion projects of building and construction with built up area of 20,000 square metres and above and all new and expansion townships and area development projects with an area of 50 hectares and above or with built up area of 1,50,000 square metres and above shall be prohibited and there shall be no restriction on repair or extension or renovation of existing residential houses in the Eco-sensitive Area as per prevailing laws and regulations.

Note: (1) All existing health care establishments can continue in Eco-sensitive Area and proposed Primary Health Centres established as per laws and regulations. 2 No restriction in change in ownership of property.

(2) The following categories of projects and activities shall be regulated as given below:-

(a) Hydropower projects- New Hydropower projects shall be allowed as per the Environment Impact Assessment notification, published vide number S.O. 1533 (E), dated the 14th September, 2006, subject to the following conditions, namely:-

(i) uninterrupted ecological flow of at least thirty percent of the rivers flow in lean season, till a comprehensive study establishes individual baselines for each project;

(ii) a cumulative study which assesses the impact of each project on the flow pattern of the rivers and forest and biodiversity loss;

(iii) the minimum distance between one project and the other is maintained at three kilometre and not more than fifty per cent. of the river basin is affected at any time,

(b) The "Orange/White" category of Industries as specified by the Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Board shall be allowed with strict compliance of environmental regulations but all efforts shall be made to promote industries with low environmental impacts.

(c) In the case of activities that are covered in the schedule to the Environment Impact Assessment notification number S.O. 1533 (E), dated 14th September, 2006, published by theerstwhile Ministry of Environment and Forests and are falling in the Eco-sensitive Area, except the projects and activities which are specifically prohibited under sub-para (1) shall be scrutinised and assessed for cumulative impacts and development needs before considering for prior environmental clearance by the Ministry under the provisions of the said notification.

(d) In particular and without prejudice to the provisions of the relevant Acts, in cases of diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes in the Eco-sensitive Area, all information of the project, from application stage to approval shall be placed in the public domain on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and of the Forest Department of the respective States.

(e) The requirements of prior informed consent under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007) shall be complied with and the consent of Gram Sabha for undertaking projects and activities shall be mandatory.

4. Implementation and Monitoring mechanism.– (1) The responsibility for monitoring and enforcement of provisions of this notification shall be with the concerned State Governments of Western Ghats region and the State Governments shall ensure placing of required mechanisms for effective monitoring and enforcement of restrictions in the Eco-sensitive Area and while placing such mechanisms, the State Governments shall inter-alia ensure strengthening of existing regulatory institutions and processes, and participation and involvement of local communities in decision making and the details of such mechanisms shall be shared by the concerned State Governments with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change .

(2) A Decision Support and Monitoring Centre for Western Ghats shall be established by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in collaboration with the six State Governments of the Western Ghats region which shall assess and report on the status of ecology of Western Ghats on regular basis and provide decision support facility in the implementation of the provisions of this notification and shall also facilitate mechanisms for scientific decision making and strengthening enforcement.

(3) The post clearance monitoring of projects and activities allowed in the Eco-sensitive Area shall be carried out by the concerned State Government, State Pollution Control Board and the Regional Office of the Ministry and all projects in the Eco-sensitive Area which have been given Environmental Clearance or Forest Clearance shall be monitored at least once a year by the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change .

(4) All projects in the Eco-sensitive Area which have been given consent to establish or Consent to Operate under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (6 of 1974) or the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (14 of 1981) shall be monitored at least once a year by the concerned State Pollution Control Board and the concerned State Governments shall prepare 'State of Health Report' in respect of Western Ghats region falling within their jurisdiction on an annual basis giving inter-alia the details of steps taken in monitoring and enforcement of provisions of this notification and make the same available in public domain.

5. Action for contravention.- In case of any contravention of the provisions of this notification, action under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) and other relevant statutes shall be taken accordingly.

6. The provisions in this notification shall be subject to the final orders of the court in pending litigation.

7. The provisions of this notification shall not affect the ownership of the property in the Eco-sensitive Area.

[F. No. 1-4-2012-ESZ]

Dr. SATISH C. GARKOTI, Scientist 'G'

Annexure A

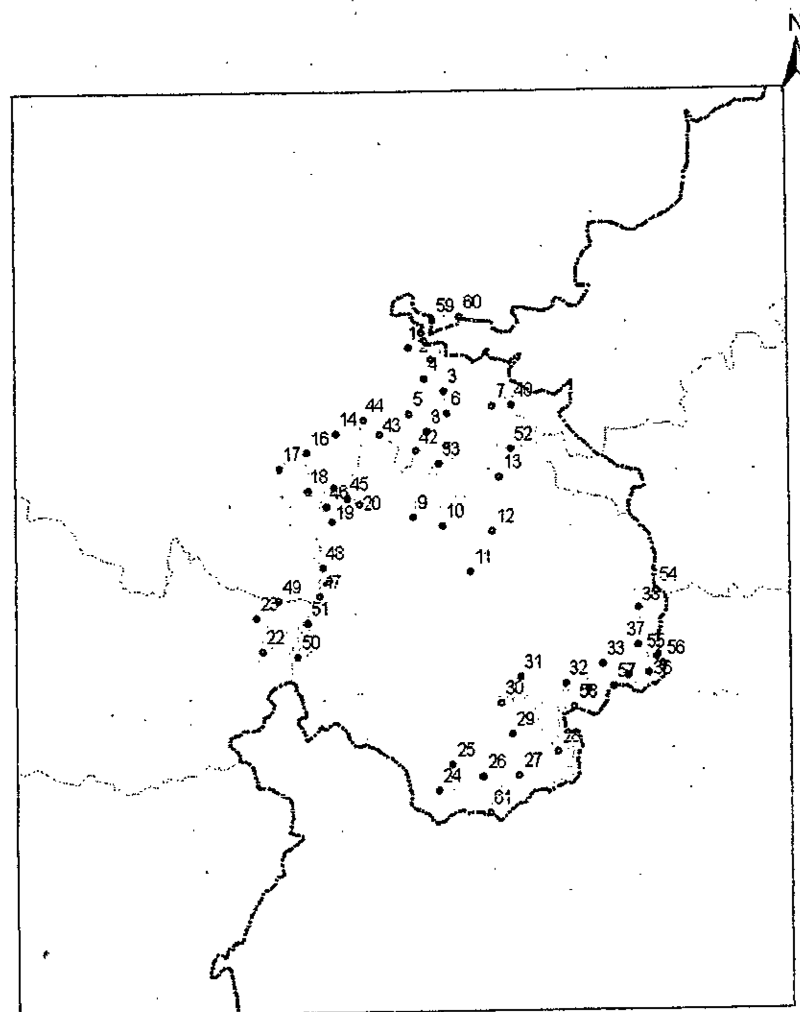
Table: State-wise area of Western Ghats Eco-sensitive Area except for State of Kerala

S. No.	State	Western Ghats Ecologically sensitive area (in square kilometre)
1	Gujarat	449
2	Maharashtra	17340
3	Goa	1461
4	Karnataka	20668
5	Tamil Nadu	6914

Note: Actual area will be finalized based on the recommendation of the State, views of stakeholders and ESZ Expert Committee.

Annexure B 1

The State-wise map of Western Ghats Eco-sensitive area falling in the State of Gujarat



Legend

National Boundary

State Boundary

District Boundary

ESZ

0 10 20 Kilometers

Point coordinates are provided in gujpts txt

Latitudes and Longitudes of prominent points on the outer boundary of Eco-sensitive area in Tamil Nadu – Contd.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
93	77.5498	8.6042
94	77.34	8.5533
95	77.271	8.5808
96	77.5213	8.5209
97	77.5746	8.4171
98	77.4866	8.3937
99	77.448	8.4753
100	77.3076	8.4547
101	77.215	8.5113
102	77.2993	8.4024
103	77.3391	8.3529
104	77.3883	8.303
105	77.5358	8.3922
106	77.5572	8.2926
107	77.5406	8.1984
108	77.4718	8.2709
109	77.215	8.5113

ANNEXURE C

List of Villages falling in Eco-sensitive Area in except for State of Kerala *

State	District	Taluk	Village Name
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Anjune
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Shiroli
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Gulle
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Bayalvada
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Pali
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Singna
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Salpi Budruk
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Jarma
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Naneli
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Maloli
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Koparde
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Karambali Bramha
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Hedode
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Uste
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Ambede
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Dongarvada
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Mausi
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Bhuipal
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Bombede
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Veluz
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Sonal
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Kumar Khand
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Valpoy
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Sanvarde
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Velgue
Goa	North Goa	Satari	Hasole

State	District	Taluk	Village Name
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Hullaramane
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Bare
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Jakkolli
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Kusguli
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Baichgod
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Harigadde
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Yadalli
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Halasinkoppa
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Uchageri
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Bidralli
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Jaddigadde
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Geral
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Hiresar
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Bharatanahalli
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Ilehalli
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Hittlalli
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Bellambi
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Kanagod-Balehadda
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Tarehalli
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Hasalmane
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Bharanii
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Chavatti
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Hemmadi
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Beejanakoppa
Karnataka	Karwar	Yellapur	Kanur
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Naravi
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Malavanthige
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Kuthluru
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Sulkerimogru
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Shirlalu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Navara
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Savanalu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Charmadi
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Sulkeri
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Navooru
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Neriya
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Nada
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Puduvettu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Shishila
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Kalanja
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Shibaje
Karnataka	Mangalore	Belthangadi	Rekhya
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Kowkradi

State	District	Taluk	Village Name
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	GOlithattu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Shirady
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Alanthaya
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Shiribagilu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Ichlampady
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Shiribagilu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Ballya
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Kombaru
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Bilinele
Karnataka	Mangalore	Puttur	Dolpady
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Balpa
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Yenekallu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Subramanya
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Subramanya
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Nalkooru
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Kuthkunja
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Inakidu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Devachalla
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Hariharapallathadka
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Balagodu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Balagodu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Madappady
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Ubaradka Mittur
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Kalmakaru
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Aranthodu
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Aletty
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Sampaje
Karnataka	Mangalore	Sulya	Thodikana
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Rajegowdanahundi
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Sollapura
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Gowdimachanayakana Halli
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Siddapura
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Metikuppe Forest
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Agasanahundi
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Metikuppe
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Metikuppekaval
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Amani Jungle
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Hirehalli
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Honnurkuppe
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Antharasanthe
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Ragalakuppe
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Manchegowdanahalli
Karnataka	Mysore	Heggadadevanakote	Kakanakote Forest

State	District	Taluk	Village Name
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Holekoppa
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Munnurhalli
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Kodlu
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Mrugavadhe
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Angalagodige
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Lakkunda
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Mavadi
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Ingladi
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Horabailu
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Almane
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Andagere
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Bogarukoppa
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Bilumane
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Shedgar
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Manikoppa
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Kolagi
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Honnekere
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Shuntihaklu
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Thumbramane
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Huruli
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Hadaginamakki
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Shivalli
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Yadamane
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Hadaginamakki
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Herambapura
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Bellangi
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Kolige
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Holalurbetagere
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Kabase
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Bekkanur
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Dasanakodige
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Guruvalli
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Keeranakere
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Shiruru
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Hosuru
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Changaru
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Honnetalu
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Kunda
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Nantur
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Talluru
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Talluru
Karnataka	Shimoga	Thirthahalli	Balehalli
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Belenje

State	District	Taluk	Village Name
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Nadpalu
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Kuchchur
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Chara
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Hebri
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Kabbinale
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Andaru
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Shirlal
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Kervashe
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Durga
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Mala
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Eedu
Karnataka	Udupi	Karkal	Nooralbettu
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Hosoor
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Byndoor
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Kollur
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Yeljith
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Yeljith
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Thagarasi
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Mudoor
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Golihole
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Jadkal
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Idurkunhadi
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Keradi
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Hallihole
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Aloor
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Chittoor
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Edmoge
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Bellal
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Vandse
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Hosangadi
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Machattu
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Amasebailu
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Amasebailu
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Shedimane
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Madammakki
Karnataka	Udupi	Kundapura	Belve
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar	Akola	Bitaka
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar	Akola	Shenit
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar	Akola	Waranghushi
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar	Akola	Jahagirdarwadi
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar	Akola	Ambevangan
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar	Akola	Panjare
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar	Akola	Ghatghar

FEE/144/ENV/2021-FEE_ENV_SEC_B-FOREST DEPARTMENT SEC

/2021/FEE-SECTION(ENV-B)

CHIEF MINISTER



VIDHANA SOUDHA
BENGALURU 560 001

Date :

Dear Sri Prakash Javadekarji.

Subject: Declaration of Eco Sensitive area in Western Ghats regarding.

Ref : 1. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change Notification dated 03.10 2018
2. Government of Karnataka Letters No CM 537 GoI 2019. dated 04 12 2019 & CM 262 GoI 2020 dated.30 07 2020

****

Kindly refer to my letter dated 30 07.2020 in which I had stated that the Kasturirangan Report had been rejected by all affected democratic institutions ranging from the Gram Panchayath to the State Cabinet.

The matter was re examined by the Cabinet Sub-Committe on 28.12.2020 and it is reiterated that the State is not ready to implement the Draft notification in its present form.

I, therefore urge you to reconsider the applicability of the Draft notification as already there is sufficient protection given by the State in the areas purported to be covered by such Notification.

With warm regards.

Yours sincerely,

(B.S.YEDIYURAPPA)

Shri Prakash Javadekar.
Hon'ble Minister of Environment. Forest & Climate Change,
Information & Broadcasting and
Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
Government of India,
Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road.
New Delhi-110 003.

1486



ಜಾವೈದ್ ಅಖ್ತರ್, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ.
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಪರ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಅರಣ್ಯ, ಜೀವಿ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸರ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
Government of Karnataka

JAWAID AKHTAR, I.A.S.
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.
Forest, Ecology and Environment Department

D.O. No FEE 33 FLL 2014

Date: 18.12.2021

Dear Sir,

Sub: Draft Notification: S.O. 667/(E) dated 03/10/2018 issued by MoEF&CC, GoI regarding Eco-sensitive Areas in Western Ghat region of the Country Objections/Suggestions of Government of Karnataka-regarding.

Ref:
1) DO letter No. FEE 33 FLL 2014, dated 24/04/2015 from Sri Madan Gopal, Addl., Chief Secretary to Govt, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, Govt. of Karnataka addressed to Sri Ashok Lavasa, Secretary to Govt. of India, MoEF& CC.
2) DO letter No. FEE 33 FLL 2014, dated 01/09/2015 from Sri Madan Gopal, Addl., Chief Secretary to Govt, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, Govt. of Karnataka addressed to Sri Ashok Lavasa, Secretary to Govt. of India, MoEF&CC.
3) D.O. letter No. FEE 33 FLL 2014, dated 20/10/2015 from Sri Madan Gopal, Addl., Chief Secretary to Govt, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, Govt. of Karnataka addressed to Sri Ashok Lavasa, Secretary to Govt. of India. MoEF&CC.
4) D.O. letter No. FEE 33 FLL 2014, dated 27/12/2016 from Sri Mahendra Jain, Addl., Chief Secretary to Govt., Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, Govt., of Karnataka addressed to Sri Ashok Lavasa, Secretary to Govt. of India MoEF&CC.
5) D.O Letter No letter No. FEE 33 FLL 2014, dated 29/12/2018 from Sri Sandeep Dave, Addl., Chief Secretary to Govt., Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, Govt., of Karnataka addressed to Sri C. K. Mishra, Secretary to Govt. of India MoEF&CC.
6) D.O Letter No letter No. FEE 33 FLL 2014, dated 27/07/2020 from Sri Sandeep Dave, Addl., Chief Secretary to Govt., Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, Govt., of Karnataka addressed to Sri C. K. Mishra, Secretary to Govt. of India MoEF&CC.
7) Draft Notification No.S.O.667(E), Dt 03/10/2018 of MoEF&CC, GoI.
8) Government of Karnataka Cabinet decision on 09-12-2021.

******

I would like to draw your kind attention to the opinion/suggestions/objections of the Govt. of Karnataka communicated earlier to the MoEF&CC, GoI, in response to the recommendations of HLWG on Western Ghats and to the draft notification issued by MoEF, GoI on 10/03/2014.

ನಂ. 448, 4ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಗೇಟ್ ನಂ.2, ಬಹುಮಹಡಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಡಾ|| ಬಿ.ಆರ್. ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ವೀಧಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 001
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080 2225 6722 / 2203 2500 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 080-2225 8393, ಇಮೇಲ್: prs-fee@karnataka.gov.in prsfee@gmail.com
No. 448, 4th Floor, Gate No. 2, M.S. Building, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560 001
Tel: 2225 6722 / 2203 2500, Fax: 080-2225 8393 Email: prs-fee@karnataka.gov.in prsfee@gmail.com

As stated in letters referred at (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) & (6) above, the State Govt., under took elaborate physical verification of proposed ESA of Western Ghat region in the State through a State Level Expert Committee (SLEC) and District Level Committees, constituted for the purpose.

A Cabinet Sub-Committee constituted for the purpose also deliberated extensively on the issue and also visited all the Western Ghat Districts and interacted with people's representatives (MPs, MLAs, MLCs, ZP Presidents, Taluk Panchayath Presidents, Gram Panchayath Presidents), Farmers' organizations, NGOs and various other Stake Holders in the Western Ghat region of the State.

The Cabinet Sub-committee perceived the strong resentment among the public regarding the village-wise Draft notification issued by MoEF on 10/03/2014, which has considered a village with EAS area ≥ 20% as EAS village. This has included private areas, habitations, cultivated areas as plantations in the Eco-Sensitive areas. The State Cabinet in consideration of the Cabinet-Subcommittee's recommendations and also the SLEC's recommendations has taken a stand that the Reserved Forest, Protected Forest, Wild-life Protected areas (Wildlife Sanctuaries & National Parks) and the proposed Eco-sensitive Zones (ESZs) in the notified villages of the 33 taluks of Western Ghat region in the State only should be notified as Eco-Sensitive Area of Western-Ghat region in the State. The State Cabinet also felt that certain of the prohibitive and regulatory regime recommended for EAS in Western Ghat need to be relooked into and made certain recommendations/suggestions to MoEF&CC for its Consideration. This stand of the State Government was communicated to you vide letters referred above. These issues were brought to the kind attention of MoEF&CC, GoI, during the meeting of the State Environment and Forest Ministers convened by MoEF&CC, GoI on 07/07/2015 at New Delhi.

But, the draft notification issued on 04/09/2015, did not consider the submissions of the State Government except the assurance that it will not affect the ownership of the property in ESA; that all the existing "Red" Category Industries and Health care establishments shall continue in ESA under the applicable rules and regulations.

In view of the above, suggestions/objections of the Government of Karnataka were once again communicated to Government of India vide reference (3) above. Further clarifications were submitted to Government of India, MoEF&CC vide reference (4) above regarding the issues raised in the meeting held on 10/02/2016 at MoEF&CC, New Delhi. In the said clarification amongst other things, the errors in the draft Notifications of GoI dated:10/03/2014 and 04/09/2015 were brought to the notice of MoEF&CC, specifically that names of 94 villages have been repeated in the notification and that the total number of villages proposed in draft notification is 1533 and if the repeated entries are removed the total villages will be only 1439. It was also

1483

emphasized that declaration of ESAs cannot be appreciated unless meaningful and substantial means of compensation is devised to mitigate the hardship that maybe faced by the affected people.

Without considering any of the communications as narrated above and as shown in the reference above that latest draft notification dated 27/02/2017 has been notified. As a necessary step before responding to the afore mentioned notification, the previous communications to GoI in this regard as shown in the reference were placed before cabinet sub-committee which was looking into the matter. The cabinet sub-committee held detailed discussion with the elected representative (MLAs/MLCs) of the Western Ghat Region. There was an overwhelming opinion that the recommendations of Kasturi Rangan Committee should be rejected and that the GoI may be recommended for withdrawal of draft notification dated 27/02/2017. The same was recommended by Cabinet Sub-Committee in its meeting held on 12/04/2017. The recommendations of the Cabinet Sub-Committee were accepted by the Cabinet of State Government in its meeting held on 19/04/2017.

Further the Government of India has issued the latest notification dated 03/10/2018 wherein none of the concerns addressed by the State have been looked into. The draft notification dated 03/10/2018 continues to be same as the earlier notifications.

Majority of the Gram Panchayats which are part of the landscape involved in the draft notification have passed resolution stating that recommendations of Kasturi Rangan Report should not be implemented. In view of the strong resentment by Local Bodies and the elected representatives of the Local Bodies and that of MLAs and MLCs, it is felt that any attempt to give effect to the restrictions and regulations as envisaged in the draft notification may prove counterproductive for the conservation of Western Ghat Region. Without active participation of the population of the region and its elected representatives, the task of conserving one of the mega bio diversity regions and hotspots cannot be accomplished. As State Government has taken adequate steps to notify ecologically fragile landscapes as reserve forests and as adequate measures have been taken to identify the probable hotspots and to constitute them into protected area network in the form of National Parks and Sanctuaries, the objective of protection of Western Ghat Region has been taken care of.

Further the State of Forest Report published for the year 2017 by Forest Survey of India, Dehradun has reported that Karnataka contribute 38575 sq Kms of Forest Cover indicating an increase of 1025 Km of tree cover from the previous report of 2017, the highest increase in Forest cover among other states in the country. The Forest Survey of India reports of 2017 and 2019 indicate that Karnataka is not only sustaining its tree cover but also increasing it consistently.

During the meeting held in New Delhi on 3rd and 4th December 2021, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka also reiterated that the lifestyle of the people in the Western Ghats of Karnataka has not only sustained the ecological security of the Western Ghats but has also enhanced it. The people of Western Ghats have lived in harmony with nature and continue to do so even in the absence of any regulatory regime. This ecologically sustainable lifestyle of the people in the Western Ghats is intrinsic to their culture and tradition. The Hon'ble CM also stressed that there is no need to bring any further regulatory regime.

The matter was again brought before the State Cabinet on 09-12-2021 and again it was unanimously resolved in the Cabinet that the Draft notification dated 03/10/2018 may be withdrawn as decided in the earlier Cabinet meeting dated 19/04/2017.

It is brought to your kind notice that the existing protection status to the above said forests and protected areas is almost equal to the protection envisaged to be given by bringing them under ecological sensitive area as recommended by Kasturi Rangan Report. The enforcement of Forest and Wildlife Acts along with Environment Protection Act and associated prohibitions, restrictions and regulations have slowed down the developmental activities in the region. The local people are consistently voicing their grievance that they have been made to sacrifice their livelihood opportunities which are lost in view of the prevailing restrictions. In view of the above, the State Government is of the view that implementation of Kasturi Rangan Report without the support and active participation of the local people and their elected representatives would prove counterproductive to the objectives of notification dated 03/10/2018.

In view of the above, the Government of Karnataka recommends for rejection of the recommendations of Dr. Kasturi Rangan Committee Report and requests the GoI to withdraw the notification dated 03/10/2018.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,

Sri RAMESHWAR PRASAD GUPTA, IAS,
Secretary to Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavarn Bhavan,
Jor Bagh,
New Delhi – 110 003.

ಅನುಬಂಧ-4

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ	ವರ್ಗ	ಷರಾ
a)	ಗಣಿಗಾರಿಕೆ, ಕ್ವಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮರಳು ಗಣಿಗಾರಿಕೆ	ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಗಣಿಗಳು ಇತ್ಯಾದಿಗಳನ್ನು 5 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಅವಧಿ ಮೀರಿ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಲು ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡಬಾರದು.
b)	ಥರ್ಮಲ್ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಸ್ಥಾವರಗಳು	ಹೊಸ ಸ್ಥಾವರಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತವಿರುವ ಸ್ಥಾವರಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಿಸಿದೆ.
c)	ಕೆಲವು ವರ್ಗದ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳು	ಕೆಂಪು ವರ್ಗದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಹೊಸ ಉದ್ಯಮಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಚಾಲ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಉದ್ಯಮಗಳ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಿಸುವುದು ಯಾವುದೇ ಉದ್ಯಮವು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮಾಲಿನ್ಯ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಅಥವಾ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಾಲಿನ್ಯ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಂಪು ವರ್ಗಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, ಅದನ್ನು ಕೆಂಪು ಉದ್ಯಮ ಎಂಬುದಾಗಿ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸುವುದು.
d)	ಕಿತ್ತಳೆ / ಬಿಳಿ ವರ್ಗದ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳು	ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮಾಲಿನ್ಯ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಅಥವಾ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಾಲಿನ್ಯ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಿತ್ತಳೆ / ಬಿಳಿ ವರ್ಗಕ್ಕೆ ಬರುವ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿಸುವುದು.
e)	ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು	ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಹೊಸ ಮತ್ತು ಚಾಲ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಿಸುವುದು. 1. 20,000 ಚದರ ಮೀ. ಅಥವಾ ಹೆಚ್ಚು: ಅಥವಾ 2. 50 ಹೆಕ್ಟರ್ ಅಥವಾ ಹೆಚ್ಚು : ಅಥವಾ 3. 1.5 ಲಕ್ಷ ಚ.ಮೀ ವಾಸ್ತವ ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಅಥವಾ ಹೆಚ್ಚು : ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತವಿರುವ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳಿಗೆ ದುರಸ್ಥಿಗೆ ಅನುಮತಿ ನೀಡಿದೆ. (2ನೇ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ನಂತರ ಅನುಮತಿಸಿದೆ.)
f)	ಜಲವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಸ್ಥಾವರಗಳು	ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿತ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಯಾಗಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

******